

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-18 remain pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 2 and 19-20 are cancelled. Claims 1, 3-4, 13 and 18 are amended as described below to account for the 112 rejections. Support for the amendments is found throughout the specification and in the original claims. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the above amendment.

At the outset, Applicants thank Examiner Elkins for his helpful comments within the outstanding Office Action to overcome the outstanding rejections. Moreover, Applicants thank Examiner Elkins for indicating that Claims 5- 12 are allowable and Claims 2-4 and 13-18 are allowable if amended to overcome the outstanding 112 rejections.

The objection to the Figures is believed to be obviated by the filing of the Formal Drawings attached hereto. Please replace the original drawings 1-23 with the attached Formal Drawings 1-23. Please further note that the formal drawings do not contain any photographs. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the filing of the attached Formal Drawings. Accordingly, withdrawal of this ground of objection is respectfully requested.

The rejections of Claim 1 under 102 and/or 103 over Quaintance and/or Walter alone or in any combination thereof are believed to be obviated by the amendment above and the cancellation of this claim.

The rejection of Claims 1-4 and 13-18 under 112, second paragraph, are believed to be obviated by the amendment above. Regarding Claims 1 and 2, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the allowable embodiments of Claim 2. Further, Applicants have amended Claim 1 from “in which containers of product are placed...” to --in which containers of product may be placed...--. This amendment makes it clear that the container is being claimed and not the method of using the container. Further, this amendment makes it clear that such placement is done at another time.

In addition, the phrase “parallelogram-shaped arrangement” has been replaced with --generally parallelogram-shaped arrangement-- which clearly has antecedent basis earlier within Claim 1.

Regarding Claims 4, Applicants have amended the claim such that “an adjacent end wall” now recites --an adjacent said end wall-- to avoid double inclusion and refer to properly established antecedent basis set forth in Claim 1.

Regarding Claim 13, the phrase “opposite end panels foldably connected along a first edge to opposite ends of the center panel for forming said end walls in an erected box” has been replaced with -- opposite end panels foldably connected along a plurality of edges ~~first edge~~ to opposite ends of the center panel for forming said end walls in an erected box-- so that it is clear that a plurality of fold lines would be required.

In addition, Claim 13 has been amended to replace "to each of the opposite side edges" with --to each of opposite side edges-- so as to establish antecedent basis.

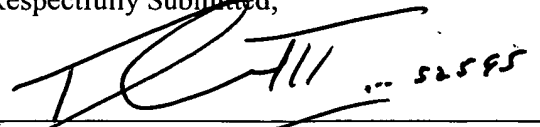
Regarding Claim 18, Applicants thank Examiner Elkins for directing Applicants' attention to this issue. It is clear that the edge of concern may be optionally free. Therefore, Applicants have amended Claim 18 to specify that the edge is optionally free by replacing "the free edge" with --the optionally free edge--. Further, Applicants have amended Claim 13 replace "having an opposite free edge" with --having an opposite optionally free edge-- so as to establish antecedent basis.

In view of all of the above, Applicants suggest that they have adequately addressed all of the concerns of Examiner Elkins. Accordingly, withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

In the interest of efficient prosecution, Applicants have addressed all of the 112 rejections as discussed below and Applicants have amended Claim 1 to include the embodiments of Claim 2 so that the present application may pass to grant. Applicants make to comment as to the merit of the rejections under 102 and/or 103 and reserve the right to file a Continuation Application to pursue this subject matter at a later date.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested. Should anything further be required to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the below-signed by telephone.

Please charge the amount of **\$1020.00** required for any request for extension of time to our Deposit Account No. 09-0525. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 09-0525. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time.

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| Correspondence Client Number: 01726 (513) 248-6736 (phone) (513) 248-6445 (fax) | Respectfully Submitted,  |
| | Thomas W. Barnes III, Ph.D. |
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